

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 84, 86 and 91, as follows. A marked-up copy of the claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached. For the Examiner's convenience, all of the pending claims are provided below.

84. (Twice Amended) A method of creating an image characterized in that the image is formed as a plurality of bands, the bands being formed independently of data included in the bands, with each of the bands representing an independently displayable portion of the image, in which multiple passes over the bands are used to manipulate the image, and wherein each of the bands is stored as independent compressed image data such that each of the bands is configured for independent manipulation.

85. A method according to Claim 84, wherein manipulation of the image comprises one of:

- (a) rendering the image;
- (b) compositing the image; and
- (c) editing the image.

86. (Amended) A method of creating an image formed as a plurality of bands or sections, the bands being formed independently of data included in the bands, with each of the bands representing an independently displayable portion of the image, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) storing each of the bands as independently compressed image data; and
- (b) editing the image by effecting multiple passes over the bands, whereby each of the bands is configured for independent editing.

87. A method according to Claim 86, wherein for each band a corresponding compressed band is formed at step (a).

88. A method according to Claim 86, wherein step (b) comprises the sub-steps of:

- (b1) decompressing at least one compressed band of image data;
- (b2) editing the at least one decompressed band;
- (b3) compressing the at least one edited decompressed band; and
- (b4) storing the at least one compressed edited band.

89. A method according to Claim 88, wherein steps (b1), (b3) and (b4) are each performed on one band at a time.

90. A method according to Claim 89, wherein step (b2) is performed on one band at a time.

91. (Amended) A method of creating an image, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) rendering a band of image data forming a corresponding band of the image, the band being formed independently of data included in the band and the band representing an independently displayable portion of the image;

(b) compressing the band of image data to form a corresponding independent compressed band;

(c) storing the corresponding independent compressed band; and

(d) repeating steps (a) to (c) for each remaining band of the image thereby resulting in the image being formed of a plurality of stored bands of compressed image data.

92. A method according to Claim 91, wherein step (a) comprises rendering the image data to an intermediate image data memory having a capacity complementing the band.

93. A method according to Claim 92, wherein step (c) comprises storing the corresponding compressed band in a compressed memory store different than the intermediate image data memory.